I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile transmission in accordance with § 1.6(d) addressed to Art Unit 1652, After Final Facsimile No. (703) 872-9307, the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

08:58

Date: September 25, 2003

PATENT Docket No. GC382-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application:)
David A. Estell) Group Art Unit: 1652
Serial No.: 09/462,845)) Examiner: Yong D. Pak
Filed: January 13, 2000	
For: Proteases from Gram-Positive Organisms))

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION **MAILED JULY 16, 2003**

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir.

This communication is in response to the Final Office Action mailed July 16, 2003, in the above-identified patent application. Although this Response is being filed after the two-month deadline for provoking an Advisory Action, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

A listing of Claims, as required by the revised format of amendments set forth in 37 CFR 1.121 begins on page 2. The Remarks begin on page 5. Also, for the Examiner's and Applicant's convenience, a clean version of the entire set of pending claims is attached as Appendix I.